

**Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2014**

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9th, 2014 in the Bethany Beach Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Carole Calef; Cathy Davis; Vicky Drury; Jan Kinsella; Mary Lou McNerney; Margaret Young; and Julie Malewski, Events Director/Media Coordinator.

Absent members: Theo Loppatto and Mary Lou Urquhart.

Also present: Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from July 22, 2014 Meeting

After a couple of minor changes, Ms. Kinsella made a motion to approve the minutes dated July 22, 2014 as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Young and unanimously approved.

Announcements

- Ms. Olmstead stated that there is no report on the Coastal Museum Committee (CMC), but there is a meeting scheduled for next Monday.
- Ms. Olmstead and Ms. Malewski created a “Take a Walk Back in Time Rain and Shine” brochure. It was presented to the Committee members. The brochure is on display in the lobby at Town Hall.

Discuss Making Completed Oral History Project Available to the Public

Ms. Olmstead explained that Code Enforcement Officer, John Apple and I.T. Manager, Dan Kenney have been working together on the Oral History Project. It was believed to be finished, but there was a mishap with the DVD that they are now working to resolve. She hopes that the project will be completed by the next Committee meeting.

Ms. Olmstead suggested that once the project is complete, the Committee can hold a grand viewing of the DVD and invite all of those who were interviewed.

Update Museum Webpage Link

Ms. Olmstead and Ms. Malewski have been meeting to work on the webpage for the Museum. They have taken everything on the Town’s website that falls under the category of the history of the Town. She explained that the Town is going to re-design its entire website, and once that is complete the Committee can move forward with creating the Museum webpage.

Ms. Malewski noted that there are three homes listed under “Historical Homes” on the Town’s website, but they are not listed on the Bethany Beach Heritage Trail brochure. Ms. Olmstead will check to see which is accurate. She also advised the members to write down any houses that they believe may meet the requirements of being historical, and to bring it to the next meeting. With the house address, they can find the owner’s name and contact them to ask if they are interested in obtaining a historical marker. If the owner is interested, they will send them a letter to sign and return. All signed letters are maintained in a file.

Plans for Current Projects

News Articles

Ms. Calef, Ms. Urquhart, Ms. Kinsella and Ms. Olmstead will continue working towards completing this project in the near future.

Town Hall Historical Pictures

Ms. Olmstead reported that she and Ms. Drury have made a lot of progress. She showed a sample of the frame that is being installed on all of the pictures. More than half of the frames are completed, and the remaining frames will be ready to be picked up this week. The Committee discussed what size plaque with wording to put underneath of the framed pictures. Ms. Malewski will type the wording on the labels that will be placed on the plaques. The text will include the name of the house in the picture, the year it was built, and its location.

Possible New Historical Markers

Ms. Olmstead reported that this item has already been discussed. Ms. Drury has volunteered to help out with this.

Discussion Regarding “A Walk Through History” Distribution

Ms. Olmstead explained that Tracy Mulligan, representative of the Bethany Beach Landowners’ Association (BBLA), asking if CHAC would be interested in selling in the Town’s Museum the “Walk Through History” booklet that was created by Margaret Young and Costello of the BBLA. She presented to the Committee her review and recommendations, and provided the following reasons for why it would seem not in the interest of CHAC or the Town of Bethany Beach to participate in the sale of the current edition of “A Walk Through History” booklet:

- 1.) Over the past years, the previous editions of “A Walk Through History” have been sold in the Town Hall at no cost to the Town.
- 2.) BBLA has partnered with local realtors in publishing and distributing the current edition, most likely at no cost. One local realtor has mailed it to many, if not all, Bethany Beach citizens.
- 3.) The local PNC Bank has also made the booklet available at no cost.
- 4.) The booklet is also for sale at Bethany Beach Books.
- 5.) CHAC has been discussing producing and having for sale items such as note cards, prints of museum mural and Bethany Beach Oral History DVD.

After some discussion, Ms. Olmstead made a motion to not recommend to Town Council to sell “A Walk Through History” booklet for the reasons stated in the document that she distributed at the meeting. Ms. Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved (5 in favor – Ms. Young abstained).

Discussion Regarding Possible Cultural Events for 2014-2015

The Committee discussed and came up with the following ideas for Cultural Events:

- 1.) Presentation on flowers local to the region. The presenter's name will be determined.
- 2.) Tom Ryan: has presented at Cultural Events before on the Civil War and Wives of Past Presidents
- 3.) Ed Konowitz: Presentation on local haunted areas and ghosts for Halloween time in October. Ms. Malewski will contact him.
- 4.) Oral History Project presentation.

Ms. Olmstead stated that they will finalize these ideas at the next Committee meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The Committee agreed to continue holding meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lindsey Good, Admin. Secretary